

Holmes County Republican.

J. CASKEY, Editor and Proprietor.

OFFICE—Washington Street, Third Door South of Jackson.

TERMS—One Dollar and Fifty Cents in Advance

VOL. 6.

MILLERSBURG, HOLMES COUNTY, OHIO, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1862.

NO. 28.

DRS. BOLING & BIGHAM,
PHYSICIANS & SURGEONS,
MILLERSBURG, O.
Office in the room formerly occupied by Dr. Irvine March 25, 1861.

S. K. CRAWFORD, M. D.
Physician and Surgeon,
Office on Main st., formerly occupied by Doctor Elkhart MILLERSBURG, OHIO.

DR. C. W. BUVINGER,
Physician and Surgeon,
MIDDLETOWN, O.
Professional calls promptly attended to.
Sept. 12, 1861.

DENTISTRY.
J. E. ATKINSON
In Millersburg Again.
READY, WILLING AND WAITING to perform all operations in his line with neatness and in the latest style.
Office over Mulvaney's Emporium.
October 26, 1861—advt.

J. P. ALBAN,
DENTIST.
MILLERSBURG, O.
Artificial teeth inserted on Gold, Silver, Vulcanite & Porcelain base. Teeth Extracted, Cleaned or filled—Satisfaction warranted.
Office a few doors west of Weston's Saloon.
Nov. 28, 1861—y.

BENJAMIN COHN,
DEALER IN
READY-MADE CLOTHING.
Of Every Description.
COR. OF JACKSON & WASHINGTON STS.
MILLERSBURG, O.

CASKEY & INGLES,
DEALERS IN
BOOKS & STATIONERY,
Millersburg, Ohio.

PLAIN & FANCY
JOEPRINTING
OF ALL KINDS, NEATLY EXECUTED
AT THIS OFFICE.

FOR SALE.
J. C. VORWORE, at the Millersburg Ferry
have a
BUGGY AND BUFFALO WAGON.
For sale very cheap.
January 31, 1862—advt.

TO THE PUBLIC.
A. WATTS, having purchased Weller and hand to wait on the public in his line in the way of a
I am also agent for said Machine, and can recommend it as the best now in use, for all purposes.
CALL AND SEE IT OPERATE.
Above John Carey's Auction Room.
Sept. 28, 1860—mms. A. WATTS.

HERZER & SPEIGLE,
E. STEINBACHER & Co.,
Produce & Commission
MERCHANTS,
Dealers in
Flour, Grain, Mill Stuff, Salt Fish, White and Water Lime,
PURCHASERS OF
Wheat, Rye, Corn, Oats, Seeds, Dried Fruits, Butter, Eggs, Wool, &c.
M. Y. 1, 1861—41

BAKER & WHOLF,
Forwarding and Commission
MERCHANTS,
AND DEALERS IN
SALT FISH, PLASTER, WHITE AND WATER LIME.
PURCHASERS OF
FLOUR, WHEAT, RYE, CORN, OATS, CLOVER AND TIMOTHY SEED,
BUTTER, EGGS, LARD, TALLOW and all kinds of Dried Fruits.
WAREHOUSE, MILLERSBURG, O.
Sept. 18, 1856—41f

New Tailor Shop.
MESSRS. HENDERSON & JACOBS, respectfully inform those wanting clothes made that they have taken the room immediately over Mulvaney's Store, where they are
Prepared to give Fits
at all times and at reasonable prices. Their long experience in the business enables them to guarantee satisfaction. Fashion Plates regularly received.
HENDERSON & JACOBS.
Millersburg, Oct. 1, 1861

NEW BOOT & SHOE SHOP!
ONE door west from J. Mulvaney's store, in the room formerly occupied as Post Office, where the undersigned is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line, especially
Fine City Sewed Work.
in such a manner as not to be excelled west of the Alleghenies. WORK WARRANTED, and done on reasonable terms.
REPAIRING done neat and on short notice.
N. B. I have on hand, as agent, a lot of home made and eastern Boots and Shoes which for ready pay I will sell on such terms that you cannot fail to buy. Please try me once, and call soon.
E. H. HULL.
July 26, 1860—49f

OIL! OIL! OIL!!!
HAYTING had considerable experience in the oil business, personally, we are prepared to make all the
TOOLS
necessary for boring wells, and pumping oil, and our portable are as satisfactory
ENGINES
are decidedly ahead in regard to power, or fuel used to obtain the power.
WE DEFY COMPETITION
either in style of Engines or price. We make engines from 2 to 100 horse power, for which motive power is required by us, and call soon.
CHAPMAN, AN. BARRETT & CO.
Wheaton, March 28, 1861—25f

THE BEST, THE LARGEST, THE CHEAPEST,
LANTERNS
ever before brought to Millersburg, for sale at the
BOOK STORE.
From 50 Cts. to 7 Dollars

Poetry.

THE PROHIBITED SONG.

In compliance with the request of several persons, we reprint the admirable poem by Walter, which the Holchesians were not allowed to sing on the other side of the Potomac. Gen. Kearney and Gen. Franklin having solemnly declared it to be incendiary, whereas Gen. McClellan has forbidden them to sing within his line at Ft. Mifflin. Our readers will notice that this poem is suggested by a famous hymn of Martin Luther.—(N. Y. Tribune.)

"FIN FESTE BURG IST UNSER GOTT."

(LUTHER'S HYMN.)

We wait beneath the furnace blast
The pangs of transformation;
Not painlessly doth God recast
And mould anew the nation.
Hot burns the fire,
Where wrongs expire;
Nor spares the hand
That from the land
Uproots the ancient evil.

The hand breadth cloud the sages fear
Its bloody rain is dropping;
The poison plant the fathers sowed
All else is overtopping.
East, West, North, South,
It curses earth;
All justice denies,
And fraud and lies
Live only in its shadow.

What gives the wheat-field blades of steel,
What points the rebel cannon?
What sets the roaring rattle's heel
On the old star-spangled pennon?
What breaks the oath
Of the men o' the south?
What whets the knife
For the Union's life?
Hark to the answer: SLAVERY!

Then waste no blows on lesser foes
In strife unworthy freedom.
God lifts to-day the veil and shows
The motives of the demon!
O North and South,
Its victims both,
Can ye not cry—
"Let Slavery die!"
And union find in freedom?

What though the east-out spirit tear
The nation in his going?
We who have shared the guilt must share
The pang of his overthrowing!
Whatever the loss
Whatever the cross,
Shall they complain
Of present pain
Who trust in God's hereafter?

For who that leans on his right arm
"Was ever yet forsaken?"
What righteous cause can suffer harm
If he its part has taken?
Though wild and loud
And dark the cloud,
Behind the folds
His hand upholds
The calm sky of to-morrow!

Above the undimmed eye for blood,
Above the wild war-drumming,
Let Freedom's voice be heard, with good
The evil overcoming.
Give prayer and purse
To slay the curse
Whose wrong we share,
Whose shame we bear,
Whose end shall gladden Heaven!

In vain the bells of war shall ring
Of triumph and revenge.
While still is spared the evil thing
That severs and estranges.
But, best the ear
That yet shall hear
The jubilate bell
That rings the dell
Of Slavery for ever!

Then let the selfish lip be dumb,
And hushed the breath of sighing;
Before the joy of peace, must come
The pains of purifying.
God give us grace
Each in his place
To bear his lot,
And, murmuring not,
Endure and wait and labor!

Miscellaneous.

From the Wide World. A NIGHT WITH A SCOUT.

BY LIEUT. S. HENRY SYMONDS.

The daily duties of camp life had grown monotonous, and I was glad to take the place of an invalid officer who had been detailed for picket; and after an early breakfast I made my appearance on regimental line with two days rations as quickly as any one. It was a beautiful morning, and the large detailment left camp in excellent spirits. After a march of some four miles, we halted at the headquarters of our guard, on "Barrett's Hill" so called, on the Alexandria and Leesburg turnpike, divided our men, and placed our first relief.

Picketing is quite enough day times unless they—the guards—are attacked and I grew restless before noon the second day, and obtained permission of Col. Griswold to take four men and go outside the lines for the purpose of scouting. I passed down the line of the railroads for some three or four miles, finding a hill covered with rifle pits, the recent works of rebels and below this their work of destruction to the railroads, done just previous to their retreating to Fairfax court House. For miles the rails, with sleepers attached, are removed in long bodies of forty to sixty rods, and slid down over the embankment; beyond this the sleepers have been gathered together and burned, and in these fires rails have been heated and twisted around large trees. It is said that this work of destruction occupied two regiments of rebels nearly two weeks; it would not take half the number of energetic Northern men three days to repair the injury.

Upon my return to quarters I discovered a rebel signal-station, and surprised the rebels, engaged in cleaning several signal lanterns. I also picked up a young fellow who told several stories but finally claimed to be a deserter from the 1st Regiment Virginia Cavalry, then stationed at Centerville.

After reporting what I had seen, at headquarters, upon my return, I was requested to accompany one of our scouts on a tramp outside the lines that night, an offer which I very readily accepted. I was sitting in the apartment occupied as headquarters, watching a game of euchre played by two captains, a surgeon and a lieutenant, when Col. Griswold called me to the door. "This is Mr. Tyler, Lieut. Symonds," said he, by way of introduction. "Good-evening, Mr. Tyler. When do you wish to start?" asked I.

"As soon as you are ready. Have you a revolver."

"Yes, sir."

"Your sword will be a burden to you."

With this hint I repaired to my quarters and left my sword in care of one of my men, and returning Tyler was lighting his pipe, and already for a start, so we sallied out together. It was a fine starlight evening and none too cold for such a tramp. We were challenged at the three posts which we had stationed on the turnpike and after giving the countersign at the last one, we passed out into the tract of country which lies between the outposts of the two contending armies. We had proceeded a short distance in silence, when the scout asked if I knew how to drop quickly if we should meet any one advancing. Upon being assured that I did, he admonished me to have my revolver in readiness; and then I noticed that he carried his in his hand.

Some distance passed in lively conversation regarding the movements of the army and the incidents of several recent scouting expeditions; but as we reached the summit of a high hill, he requested silence and the walk was continued as quiet as possible, the scout stopping several times and leaning his ear toward the ground to listen for footsteps or voices. The first sound which broke the stillness was the loud barking of a dog, which the scout hushed by a low whistle, continuing until the dog stood by his side. A few moments after, approaching a house, he said he would find what news was there, and we entered without knocking, and I was introduced as Lieut. Smith. There were three females, apparently a mother and two daughters, present, and two rather ragged boys. The scout said good evening, and placed a chair by the fire for me, and another by the table for himself, then took up a pair of shears, snuffed the candle, cut a couple buttons off his coat, and remarked that it was a pleasant evening.

During the stop here, Tyler smoked with the mother and purchased a pipe of her, which he praised highly; joked with the daughters, engaged the oldest in repeating the buttons upon his coat which he had cut off, and keeping up with the whole family a running conversation, rather light and lively, but apparently of no use for information; but the visit was of great value and the scout obtained much information without asking a question or appearing to take the slightest interest in the matter. A social smoke with the mother and a few attentions to the daughters were better to him than all the questions he could have asked; so after call of half an hour, he started on again, and we were well on the road he said;

"That's a valuable family to me, so I keep in with the mother and court the daughters. They like it because it's pleasure I like it because it's business."

During the evening we stopped at two other houses, at both of which my companion made himself perfectly at home laughing and joking with the females of the family, with all of whom he seemed to be quite a favorite which fact I could not account for, as he was by no means a handsome man, but rather the reverse. After we left the third place, I spoke to him regarding that point.

"Oh," he replied, "I keep in with the woman by talking a great deal, and by hearing all they have to say. I laugh and joke with them, and keep my tongue running when they are not, and in this way I get all the news from them and they don't know they have given me a word. Then a kind word and an occasional sip of wine to a favorite child, or a little speaking for a grown daughter, adds a great deal to the friendship of a family."

When we were some four or five miles outside of our lines we advanced cautiously and in silence, frequently halting in the deep shade and listening for several minutes, and then proceeding again. I should judge we were eight miles from our line of pickets when we stopped in a thicket, and my companion, directing me to remain quiet for a few moments, crawled off on his hands and knees. The moments seemed long that he was gone, and I just began to feel my situation lonely, when he returned, as he went. He crawled close to where I lay, and placing his face near mine whispered to ask if I felt the least frightened. Of course, I exclaimed that I did not, and he said, in the same low tone.

"We are quite near them, crawl low and close to me, if we are challenged, make no response, keep as quiet, as death; should they approach us, wait till you can see them distinctly, if there be only one, leave him to me; if two, or more, you take the right hand one from you, unless too far off; make sure work if you fire, and retire immediately, being prepared for an other attack. Keep cool now he added, as we crawled out of the thicket with our revolvers in our hands. We had gone in this manner, perhaps, fifty rods, when a loud, prompt challenge of "who comes there?" greeted our ears. I laid as snug to the ground as possible, and tried to be very quiet, but it seemed as though I never breathed so loud before; my heart beat quite distinctly, and it was with the greatest efforts that I repressed a desire to cough and continued to enjoy the pleasures of a tickling in the throat; but the pickets did not discover our whereabouts, and after lying quiet until we were chilled to the bone, I followed my companion back in the same manner that we came, to a respectful distance from the guard; then walking along the road a short distance from the guard; we attempted to approach them in a second place, with the same result.

Retreating a second time, we moved some ways before again approaching, and then in a very cautious manner, and we were rewarded for our pains, by being able to lie in a thicket and listen to conversation carried on by two or three of their pickets. We laid here perhaps half an hour, when we made a stir in the bush and were challenged; in a moment or two afterwards, the scout put his lips close to my ear whispering:

"I shall get up, when I have got twelve or fifteen feet off, you follow me!" and he stood on his feet. I had just gained my feet to follow him, when the flash of a musket dazzled my eyes, and a ball passed somewhere between his body and my own. I experienced a choking sensation, and it seemed as though my heart had jumped up into my mouth; I hardly knew what I might have done, had my companion now turned about and warned me to keep quiet, with an oath. I was as cool as ever, as I ever was in my life. "Lay down," whispered the scout, and I lay myself close to the ground. "Now face them," and turned my head and face directly toward the spot from whence came the flash, and we lay thus for some moments in the most perfect silence, which he finally broke, by saying:

"Back out, now, carefully."

And we did back out, most cautiously with our revolvers in our hands, until we were removed to such a distance that we were safe to get up and walk away. Then we left the line of pickets entirely, being convinced that we could be unable to learn anything further of importance, and desiring to take a look at another part of the country before daylight. We had proceeded less than a mile, when a dog barking furiously, ran down the road toward us, the scout allowed him to approach us very close, growling as he was, then caught him under the throat with his left hand, struck him a powerful blow between the eyes with the butt of his revolver, then patted him several times, calling him a good dog, and let him go; after this treatment, the dog followed us about for some time, wagging his tail in high glee. When within some two miles of our lines of pickets, we left the turnpike, crossing fields of cultivated lands, and a piece of young woods in which the rebels had erected bush-houses, which they occupied in preference to rag-houses, after our Government commenced balloon reconnoitering, and previous to their retiring from this position. We lay in one of these bush-houses for hours, or until day-break, on an unsuccessful lookout for signals from the residence of a notorious rebel.

These hours which were rather dull and uncomfortable my companion enlivened by relating several anecdotes regarding his campaign in Mexico where he was a scout, and finally, he told me how our folks obtained correct information regarding the force of the rebels at Munson's Hill, previous to our advance to and beyond that place. The Hill seemed to be covered with encampments, and as seen from our lines it had the appearance of being strongly fortified; and yet what seems very strange was the fact that although the position commanded our advance, they never fired a shot at us. This mystery puzzled the heads of our army, extremely, and finally Tyler was dispatched to learn what he might. It was a dark night, and he, clad in a rebel uniform and armed with a musket, proceeded cautiously towards the Hill, eluded the vigilance of their pickets, passed through their lines, and stationed himself between the camps of two different regiments. Very soon after an officer passed that way, who he challenged, and in turn gave him the countersign—"New Orleans." Gaining that, he laid aside his musket and passed through the several camps, learning that they were not half as strong as they appeared, and what looked from our lines like guns mounted, were only stove-pipes and logs of wood in position. The next day our forces moved forward and occupied the Hill, and met with not the slightest opposition.

At daylight we prepared to return; a colleague of my companion met him with orders from Gen. Morel to accompany a large force on a scout towards Hunter's Mills, and I wended my way back alone, within our lines.

Our Ohio Forces.

From a table in the State Journal, made up from the tri-monthly reports of the office of the Adjutant General, we learn that Ohio has 53 regiments of infantry, and 4 regiments and 8 companies of cavalry, and one regiment and six batteries of artillery, now in service beyond the limits of the State. These troops are distributed as follows: 17 regiments of infantry, 1 regiment and 5 companies of cavalry, and 3 batteries of artillery are in Virginia; 23 regiments of infantry, 2 regiments and 2 companies of cavalry, and 7 batteries of 1st regiment and 2 independent batteries, are in Kentucky; 8 regiments of infantry are in Maryland; and 2 regiments of infantry, 2 regiments of cavalry, and 6 batteries of artillery are in Missouri. Nine regiments are in camp in this State, completed and awaiting marching orders; and 8 regiments nearly completed will be filled by the distribution of the 52d and 51st regiments. Five regiments are organizing that have 400 to 700 men. When these regiments are all completed, Ohio will have in the service of the Federal Government, 75 regiments of infantry, nearly 8 regiments of cavalry, and one regiment of 12 batteries and 16 independent batteries of artillery.

A Good Name.

Have you not found it so, young man, you whose well known virtue has placed you in a position which you occupy with a feeling of commendable pride. And you whose fame has been the target of envious tongues, have you not seen a good name to be the only honest shaft of calumny? Gold and talents, what are these without a character? A light to render darkness visible; a guiding, which with contrast makes substance more revolting? Cherish it, then, all ye who possess it. Guard it carefully, for depend upon this, its purity once tarnished, the unwary effort will hardly restore it to its pristine lustre. Let it attend you through the journey of life, crowning your days with peace and happiness. The retribution that won't it will engrave upon your face a letter of recommendation to people of every nation and tongue. And when the treasure is no longer needful to you, it shall descend to your posterity, a legacy with which millions would not dare to be compared.

Bombardment of Donelson.

The bombardment of Fort Donelson by Commodore Foote's flotilla on Friday was terrific, and would doubtless have been successful but for the rebels' luck in disabling three of the assaulting gunboats. The flotilla consisting of the iron clad boats St. Louis, Carondelet, Pittsburgh and Louisville, and the two wooden boats Conestoga and Tyler. The line of battle was formed of Friday when about two miles from the fort, the flag ship taking the extreme right. An account says:

We kept advancing slowly and steadily for about half an hour, when the order was given to slack the engines so as to prevent the boats from drifting down the current. The firing then increased to a terrific rate on both sides. The enemy poured 32 and 24 pounders into our vessel with great effect, and our gunners returned their eight inch shell and 64 pound rifle balls with great skill. We had not been long in the heat of the action when a shot from the enemy's water battery carried away the flag staff of the St. Louis; almost the next shot took away the chimney guys of the same boat. A well sent ball from the St. Louis soon struck the flag staff of the enemy, which was located in the top of the fort—a good distance from the battery. This terrible fire lasted about a half an hour, when a 64 pound ball from the middle battery of the fort struck the tiller ropes of the gunboat Louisville, rendering the steering apparatus of that boat unmanageable. About the same time a shot entered one of the windows of the pilot house of the Carondelet, mortally wounding the pilot, William Hinton. Thus the controls of our boats was in a manner lost. Shortly after this a 32 pound ball penetrated the pilot house of the St. Louis, mortally wounding one of the pilots, F. A. Riley, injuring two other pilots, and slightly wounding flag officer Foote. There were five men in at the time—the four I have mentioned and a young man, the correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette. Of the five the latter only escaped injury.

In addition to this damage the shot struck the wheel of the St. Louis, so as to materially effect its working. For a short time the vessel was unmanageable. The Commodore, wounded though he was, jumped up and attempted to right the ship but found it impossible to manage her. The relieving tackle was then tried, but it could not be successfully worked.

Thus three of our vessels were disabled by accidents that do not happen once in a hundred times. The men on board of all of them were unwilling to give up the fight. The enemy had been driven from the lower battery and their fire had slackened perceptibly. To fight in such a current, with powerless boats, would, the Commodore knew, be worse than folly. Reluctantly, therefore, he ordered a slow retreat.

Our vessels then stopped all their engines and floated slowly from their position. They had been within two hundred yards of the fort. The enemy soon saw the condition of our fleet and redoubled their fire. They ran to the lower batteries and opened them on us with terrible force. I forgot to mention in the proper place that one of the guns of the Carondelet burst in the middle of the action, and that the Pittsburgh received two balls below water mark, causing her to leak rapidly. We replied well to the reinvigorated foe and fired the last shot.

Our fleet retired in good order, and anchored two miles below the fort. The injuries to the gunboats was not very great. We had silenced one of their batteries, and driven the men from several of the other guns. The battle was pronounced by several old men-of-war's men, who had participated on our side, the hottest they had ever seen. Commodore Foote said it was the most terrific firing ever done at a bombardment.

Shocking Casualty.

The Pittsburg Gazette relates that on Thursday morning last, near the Corry road, on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad, a woman named Costello, when kindling a fire in the morning dipping a handful of shavings into a bucket of crude petroleum and then set fire to them, causing such a great flame that she upset the bucket and fired the inflammable oil by dropping the shavings into it. The husband and children were lying in bed in the same room. Her screams attracted the attention of people outside, who dared not venture into the fire, and they called upon her to come out. She replied that she would not come without her children, and seizing one of them—the eldest, aged two years—in her arms, she attempted to make her escape, but by this time was overcome by strangulation, and had to remain and be burned with the building, which was soon in ruins. The husband somehow managed to escape, but so badly burned in his efforts to save his family that he cannot survive. The mother was taken from the ruins a blackened, charred mass, with the remains of the child still in her arms both bodies burned to the bone, the cooked flesh quivering in detached portions from the trunks, the extremities almost entirely consumed. The youngest child, aged one year, was burned to a coke-like mass, with scarcely the semblance of a human being left.

O. Jennings Wise—his death.

While standing within the room where lay the favorite son of Henry A. Wise, the Surgeon came in, and stepping up to the couch of the wounded man, examined his countenance with a calm scrutiny, as if endeavoring to fathom the deep recesses of the heart of this enemy of the country, who was about to pay a debt already too long deferred both for the credit of his country and that of a once honorable name. Lifting himself partially on one elbow, he turned his face toward the Federal Surgeon in charge, and said: "When I am sufficiently recovered, do you think I will be allowed to go home on my parole of honor?"—Cor. Phil. Inquirer.

Prices.

Under the above caption, the Boston Commercial Bulletin gives the following interesting items, showing the fluctuations in prices.

According to the table before alluded to, prices generally were highest in 1819, and lowest in 1843. Beef was highest in 1855, and lowest in 1843. Its average price for ten successive years, was below nine dollars per barrel. Pork was highest in 1837, and lowest in 1845. Its average price for ten successive years was below twelve dollars per barrel. Codfish was highest in 1859, and lowest in 1843. Flour, that most sensitive of articles, was highest in 1837; an importations of breadstuffs into the United States, to the amount of five millions of dollars, having occurred in that year. It was lowest in 1821. Its average price, for forty-four years, has been \$6 46 per barrel. Rice, which is an article of food with two-thirds of the human race, was highest in 1819, and lowest in 1849. In the latter year, it was sold at about the same price as the duty levied upon it at the Custom House prior to 1833. Its average price for the last thirty years has been about 9 cents per pound. The consumption of coffee in the United States has increased, since 1833, from forty-four millions to two hundred and fifty-one millions of pounds. In 1834, the consumption was three pounds per head; in 1853 it was eight pounds. Tea was highest in 1832, and lowest in 1855. The consumption of this article has increased from thirteen million pounds in 1834, to thirty-six millions in 1858. Its average price for the last dozen years has been below thirty-eight cents per lb. The average duty levied upon it at the Custom House, prior to 1833, was thirty-two cents. Muscovado sugar was highest in 1819, and lowest in 1842. The consumption of sugar in the United States has increased from one hundred and ninety-five million of pounds in 1832, to one thousand millions of pounds in 1859. Hides were highest in 1857, and lowest in 1849. Cotton, owing to the blockade consequent upon the civil war existing in the United States, is higher at the present time than during any period since the peace of 1815. It was lowest in 1845. The difference in the extremes of price is greater than of any other article, it being five hundred and fifty per cent. The crop of this article has increased from one hundred and eighty millions of pounds in 1821 to twenty-two hundred millions of pounds in 1860. It furnishes more than one-third of our exports to foreign countries. Wool, owing to the demand for the present war supplies, is higher than at any other period during the last forty-four years. It was the lowest in 1829. The duty levied upon it, under the tariff of 1828, was four cents per pound, equal to one hundredth per cent. upon prime cost.

New Orleans in Danger.

The rebels are waking up to some of the dangers which begin to press upon the commercial emporium of the Confederacy; and the New Orleans Delta of the 30th of January while professing to believe that that city can defy any attack from the sea is concerned about the Mississippi gunboat expedition. It says:

But what is the fact in regard to the route down the river from Columbus? Should Columbus fall what is to prevent the enemy from sweeping down the river with its immense fleet of gunboats and floating batteries which he has been so long preparing at St. Louis and Cairo, and with a hundred thousand men under Halleck, to attack us on one side, while an expedition striking up from the sea, would attack us on the other? Who can answer? Do expectant defenses answer? Do preparations for defence in rapid progress answer? Where are the defenses? Who is engaged in the preparations? These questions admit of no satisfactory answers.

Our dependence at present for the safety of the city from the approach of a formidable expedition down the river, is upon Columbus. That is the northern key to the Mississippi delta. That in possession of the enemy the floodgates of invasion will be opened. Our situation would not be hopeless, for the soul of Southern men fighting a war of independence, must not dream of despair; but we would be confronted with terrible dangers and the whole country exposed to fearful evils. On one condition only can we realize a full assurance that such dangers will not occur, and that such evils will never impend.

The Delta asks that five thousand men be sent from New Orleans to Columbus. This article, from a leading New Orleans paper, and the appointment of Gen. Beauregard, their best engineer, to command at Columbus shows that our gunboat fleet is regarded as one of the Confederacy's most serious points of danger.

Royal Skating.

It is said that their Majesties of France have taken every advantage of the frost this winter to indulge in their favorite pastime of skating. The Empress usually skates holding the hands of two gentlemen, also skating, of her suite, and thus skims along the ice at a great pace, and seemingly with much pleasure to herself. In her pretty costume, and with the abundant color, produced by exercise, in her cheeks, her Majesty is scarcely recognizable, and passes almost unheeded among the surrounding groups. She appears to take great delight in the amusement, and when the short daylight falls and it is time to depart, exclaims, "Won't you wait for me while I take one more little turn!" and off goes her pretty Majesty and her two aids for what she calls "un petit tour de plus." The Emperor skates as well as he does most other things, and every now and then chooses a lady from the suite, or good naturedly recognizes one standing among the lookers on, invites her to take a ride, fetches a chair and whisks her away before him at a great pace.

Mr. Weed's Letter from Europe.

Paris, Jan. 22, 1862.

There is too much reason to apprehend trouble from this Government. It is said, indeed, that the Emperor will avail himself of the meeting of his Chambers, on the 27th inst., to object to our blockade, and to the obstruction of the harbor of Charleston. This latter idea has been ventilated through the press of Paris and London. It is a refinement or sublimation, in war, difficult to comprehend, coming as it does, from nations whose examples we have followed. It is not long since it was proposed in England to exterminate the inhabitants of a city in India, sprinkling its unburied dead with salt. I will not recall the alleged barbarities of France in the prosecution of her wars. The accusations of both Governments against us, if made, will be miserable pretences to conceal selfish purpose. The rebellion of the South subjects Europe to inconvenience. They want cotton. But will they get it in the unjust ways they seek it? Let time furnish the answer. The Confederate States have stronger reasons for objecting to the intervention of Foreign Governments than we have. It forced to change the character of the war, the responsibility will be upon others. But for the premature and gratuitous recognition of traitors as belligerents by France and England, these Governments would now have been receiving the cotton the so much coveted.

And besides England and France want customers quite as much as they want cotton. If, taking advantage of our civil war, they force us into war with themselves, or with either, they will pay dearly for their injustice.

Our war with rebellion has been one of forbearance. In all that was possible we have acted mercifully. Had it been otherwise the sentimentality of Europe would not have been left to the indulgence of artificial sympathy because a harbor has been artificially obstructed.

Jan. 24.—We are yet in suspense and anxiety about the forthcoming speech of the Emperor. It is feared that, by some understanding with England, he will take ground against us. Our Minister Mr. Dayton, is to have an interview with M. Thouvenin, on the subject to-day.

We were presented to the Emperor and Empress, by our minister, on Wednesday evening, and passed from the Imperial Audience Chamber into the ball room of the Tuilleries. Among the Americans presented on this occasion, were Mrs. Phillips, Van Rensselaer, [daughter of the late Gen. James Tallmadge] and her son, Mr. Leslie and lady, late chief clerk in the War Department, and Robert L. Vanderwater and lady, of California, and Mr. Tree, of Chicago.

The ball was of course very magnificent, graced as it was, by the presence of all the rank, fashion and beauty of Paris, numbering over three thousand. The Emperor and Empress, with the Princess Clotilde, were seated in the centre of the Ball Room, where they remained until 12 o'clock; and then, preceded by the Duke of Cassano, Grand Chamberlain, and followed by the Diplomatic Corps, moved into the Supper Room—a marked feature of the evening, for the supper was gorgeously prepared and served. It was, in fact, a Dinner, with regular courses, from Soup to Desert. At the other end of the Ball Room was every variety of less, Creams, Fruits and Comfits, for three hours before the Supper. Among the most distinguished guests were the Duke of Malakoff and Marshall Niel.

The Empress, in gracefulness and beauty, is all that she has been so often described. Behind the Tuilleries, in the Court, over two thousand carriages, in waiting, were arranged in order, and with their lights added to the gas lights, caused a brilliant illumination.

The Emperor is but slightly changed in the ten years that have elapsed since he seized the Imperial reins. We saw him, as now, in 1852, at a ball at the Hotel Den.

Four O'clock P. M.—I have been, in accordance with an appointment made yesterday, two hours with the Prince Napoleon, who is earnest in our cause, and encourages me to hope that the Emperor will deal justly with America in his speech. The interview was pleasant and satisfactory. The Prince told me that the Emperor regretted that he did not see Gen. Scott, for whom he has great respect, and upon whose judgment and opinions he should have placed entire confidence.

The Southern Situation.

The World of the 5th says from the recent revelations of the Southern press we feel justified in making the following generalizations:

2. That the total effective rebel army is less than 300,000 men, of which, since the withdrawal of ten or fifteen thousand by Beauregard to Columbus, some 130,000 150,000 remains near Vicksburg. That their arms are very defective, being mainly old flintlocks rifled and some English muskets very much inferior to the small arms of our troops.

3. That in cannon, especially light field pieces, our army is in immense superiority to theirs. Their defensive position also is an aggravation of this difficulty, as they are compelled to have batteries not only in the places we intend to attack but also in many places